



MBAH News & Views

Mississippi Board of Animal Health

Dr. Jim Watson, DVM

Dr. Brigid Elchos, DVM

WINTER 2014

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Bovine Trich Testing
- MVMA Meeting
- Reportable Diseases
- Health Certificates

State Veterinarian Update

This past year was a busy year for the Board of Animal Health, and we expect the same for 2014!



Our accomplishments would not have been possible without the hard work of our dedicated staff, especially Betty Roberts and Chris Smith who completed their 20th year working for **the State of Mississippi**. **Betty is the MBAH's Director of Poultry Division** and Chris is our Office Administrator.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the Board Members for supporting the work of the Board of Animal Health on behalf of all Mississippians by taking time out of their busy schedules every other month to attend the board meetings.



We are one of 13 states that has a board system for the **State Veterinarian's Office**. **This system allows direct input from all the livestock and poultry groups as regulations are developed. This ensures the needs of the various industries are fairly represented.**

As always, feel free to call our office with any questions you may have in regards to accreditation, entry requirements, reportable diseases or any other regulatory issues.

Jim Watson, DVM
State Veterinarian

Meet our Board...

Dr. Betsy Lipscomb, DVM, is the current Chairperson for the Board of Animal Health. Dr. Lipscomb recently retired from her veterinary practice in Port Gibson, but continues to work as a cattle rancher. She is an active member of the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association and is an Elder at First Presbyterian Church in Port Gibson.

We appreciate Dr. Lipscomb's service to the MBAH.



Bovine Trich Testing Certification

In 2014, the MBAH will be implementing a certification program for veterinarians wishing to perform Bovine Trichomoniasis Testing.

The increase in the submissions of Trich samples due to state import requirements has revealed several issues related to poor quality samples arriving at the diagnostic laboratory. The certification program will standardize the collection and shipping procedures in an attempt to eliminate those problems.

The MVMA Winter Meeting will have a session focusing on Bovine Trichomoniasis. The session will cover current concepts in diagnosis and herd management of the disease, regulations, and sample collection. Attendance at the meeting will qualify for certification. For those unable to attend the meeting, a DVD will be produced and made available for veterinarians wishing to perform Trich Testing in MS. The state Trichomoniasis regulation can be found on our website (www.mbah.ms.gov) under the "Regulations" tab.



Mississippi's Animal Working

Group met for the 12th year at the Jackson Zoo for a day filled with camaraderie and information sharing. The group meets at least once a year to discuss animal-related issues such as rabies, wildlife, food and agriculture criticality and protection, emergency response, and public health.



USDA Veterinary Services Reorganization

As Brucellosis, Pseudorabies, TB, and Scrapie near eradication, the activities of VS as a regulatory agency are changing. We are unlikely to see large scale eradication programs funded in the foreseeable future. Rather, more and more, public focus is being placed on Emerging Diseases, One Health, and Food Security issues.

Our office is committed to insuring that you don't see any change in the level of service other than improvement. If you experience any problems or have questions about the reorganization please give me a call at 601-936-8580. Additional information about the reorganization can be found on the web at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/



Ken Angel
Assistant District Director, District 4

Training Opportunities at MVMA Meeting

The Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association's Winter Meeting is set for Thursday, February 27th-Saturday, March 1st in Starkville at the College of Veterinary Medicine. A full agenda for the meeting can be found at www.msvet.org.

The MBAH personnel are presenting and coordinating several sessions at the meeting:

MVMA Disaster Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 27, 10:00 am-11:30 am—Auditorium

Open to any interested veterinarians or veterinary technicians attending the MVMA.

Disaster Training

Thursday, February 27th, 1:00pm-5:00pm—Auditorium

Dr. Garry Goemann, Team Commander, Veterinary Medical Assistance Team, AVMA

The changing landscape of veterinary disaster response

- Assessment, the basis of disaster planning
- Veterinary medical care for disaster sheltered animals
- Veterinary medical support for working dogs

This session is sponsored by the American Veterinary Medical Foundation (4 CE Credits).

Business Practice Workshop--Real Doctors Treat All Species

Saturday, March 1st, 1:30pm-4:30pm—Tait Butler Classroom

Dr. Brigid Elchos, Deputy State Veterinarian

This session will cover veterinary occupational stressors and provide tools to enhance work performance and retention of both staff and clients. This session will build on itself so it is highly encouraged that participants attend the full workshop.

Statewide Trich Program

Saturday, March 1st, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Dr. Jim Watson, State Veterinarian

Saturday, March 1st, 3:15pm-4:15pm

Bull BSE's Wet Lab and Trich Certification (\$20)

Accreditation

Category I Accredited Veterinarians must complete any 3 units of AAST anytime within their three-year renewal period to renew their accreditation. Similarly, Category II Accredited Veterinarians must complete any 6 units of AAST anytime within their three-year renewal period. Make sure and save your certificates.

Training is available at meetings, on C/Ds and online. The online training can be found at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/aast.shtml

If you have any questions or need help, feel free to call the State Veterinarian's Office or the Federal Office.



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Information for you...

•The Mississippi Board of Animal Health recorded 15 cases of EEE and 3 cases of West Nile Virus in horses in 2013. See the number of cases by county at the following link:

http://www.mbah.state.ms.us/disease_programs/reports/SummaryReport.asp?txtPassedYear=2013



•Veterinarians and Animal Shelters hosting **Rabies Vaccination Clinics** through the MBAH's program should keep a copy of all vaccination certificates. For information on hosting a Rabies Vaccination Clinic click on the following link:
http://www.mbah.state.ms.us/disease_programs/rabies/

•The "I Care for Animals" car tag program has benefitted over 60 animal organizations around the state. The majority of the funds have gone towards spay/neuter programs. **Purchase your "I Care" tag at your county tax assessor's office.**



Find up to date information at
www.facebook.com/msboardofanimalhealth

Reportable Diseases

The MBAH elects to participate in the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) which is designed to report, on a state by state basis, diseases which have an impact on the ability of the United States to export animals and meat products to other countries.



Diseases reportable to the State Veterinarian's Office include:

- Plague
- West Nile Virus
- Chronic Wasting Disease
- Tularemia
- Eastern Equine Encephalitis
- Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

Health Certificates

In Mississippi, health certificates are required on all animals except livestock consigned to Federal approved slaughter establishments. All international imports require prior entry permit.

Regulatory Disease Control

Regulations have been promulgated by the MBAH to control, eradicate and prevent the spread of diseases of animals in the State of Mississippi. A summary of the regulations can be found on the MBAH website at www.mbah.ms.gov.

For a list of drugs (includes antibiotics) prohibited for extralabel use in food-producing animals, see this link:
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfcfr/CFRSearch.cfm?CFRPart=530&showFR=1&subpartNode=21.6.0.1.1.16.5>
see Sec 530.41.